

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 were originally pending. Claims 2-6, 8, 10, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-26, 28, and 30 were amended. Claims 1, 7, 9, 11, 17, 19, 21, 27, and 29 were canceled without prejudice. No claims were added. Accordingly, claims 2-6, 8, 10, 12-16, 18, 20, 22-26, 28, and 30 remain pending.

Applicant thanks the Office for the indication that claims 5, 8, 10, 15, 18, 20, 25, 28, and 30 would be allowable if amended to include the subject matter of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has so amended these claims to generate respective independent claims. Dependent claims 2-4, 6, 12-14, 16, 22-24, and 26 depend from one of these allowable independent claims. Accordingly, the application has been placed into condition for allowance and action to that end is respectfully requested.

Should any issue remain that prevents allowance of the application, the Office is encouraged to contact the undersigned prior or issuance of a subsequent Office action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dated: 8/23/04

By: 

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